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CONTINUING A 6-PART SAGA...

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

PART 5

"THUNDER"



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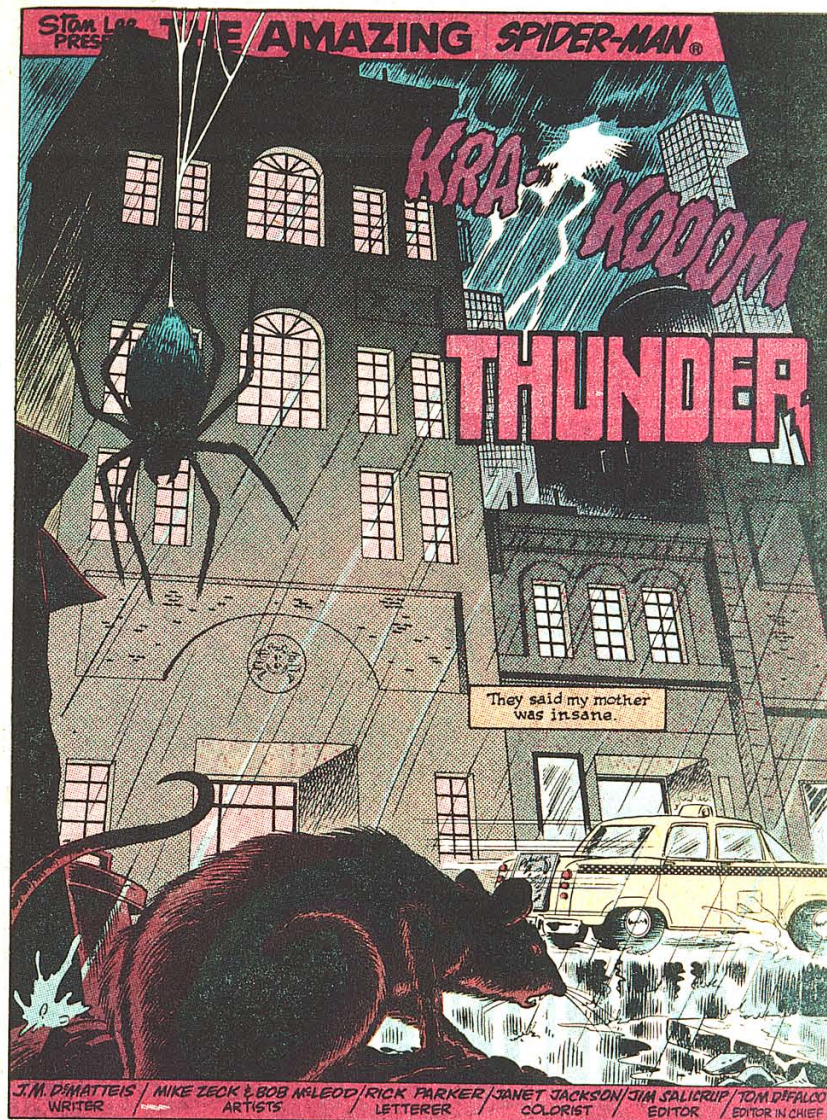


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A woman of rare breeding... true nobility... and a tender heart.

Driven out of Russia by the Trotskys and Lenins.

Driven to America where she was overwhelmed by the poverty. The filth. The utter mundanity of life here.

Finally locked away, like an animal: trapped. Abused. Terrified.

KRA-KOOOON



And my father, his spirit broken, allowed it.



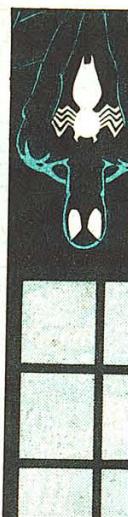
And I, just a child, could only watch--as helpless as she was.



They said my mother was insane; that she took her own life: *They lied.*



Her life was stolen from her:



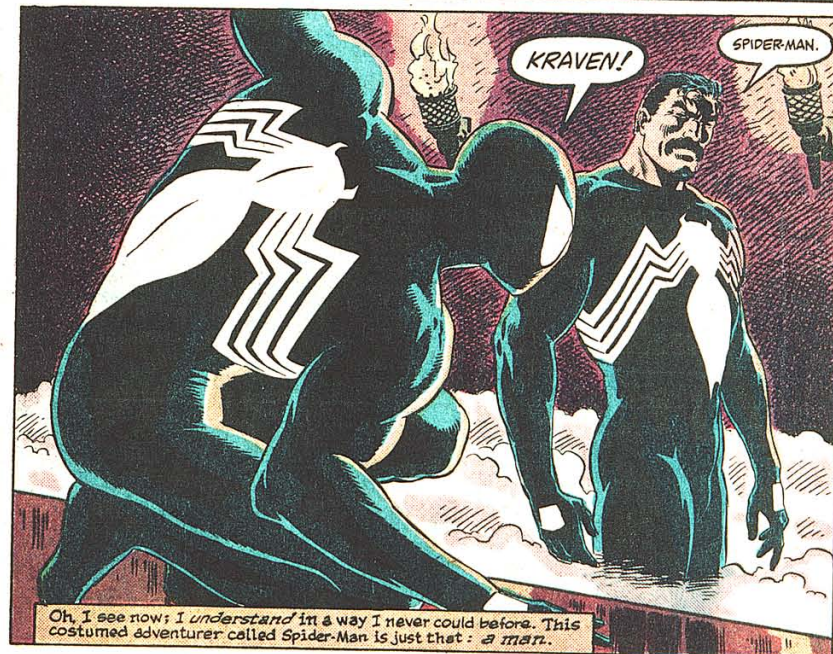
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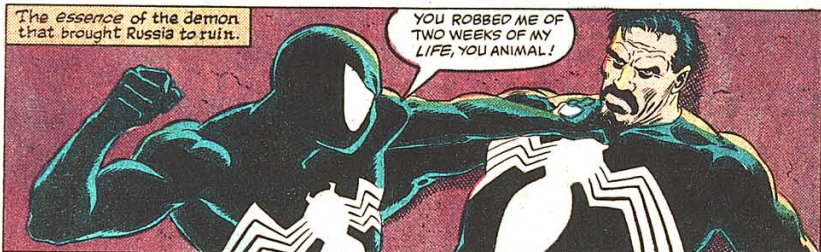
The Spider.



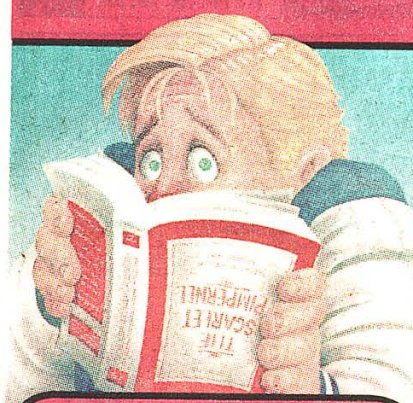
KRAVEN!

SPIDER-MAN.

Oh, I see now; I *understand* in a way I never could before. This costumed adventurer called Spider-Man is just that: *a man.*



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Paperbacne:

The kind of acne you'd like to hide behind a book.



Oppozits:

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So, if you're hiding your Paperbacne behind this magazine, get Oxy and get your face ready to face the world.



OXY Because zits are no laughing matter.



Not till my victory is complete. And it will only be complete--



-- when he understands.

HIT ME AGAIN IF YOU LIKE, SPIDER-MAN. HIT ME A HUNDRED TIMES.

I WON'T RESIST. I WON'T FIGHT. THERE'S NO REASON TO FIGHT.

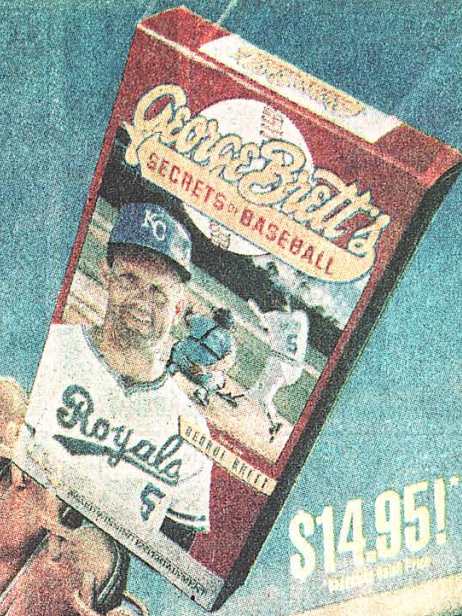
But he doesn't understand.

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I "KILLED" YOU, SPIDER-MAN. BURIED YOU. AND AFTER I "KILLED" YOU--

KOOOOM



--I TOOK YOUR PLACE.



SHAKKAKK



YOU DRUGGED ME, KRAVEN-- THREW ME INTO A STATE SIMULATING DEATH--



YOU COULD JUST AS WELL HAVE BEEN DEAD HAD I WISHED IT.

I ONLY ALLOWED YOU TO LIVE--



GRRRRRR



KOOOOM



--SO THAT YOU COULD KNOW THAT I "KILLED" YOU.



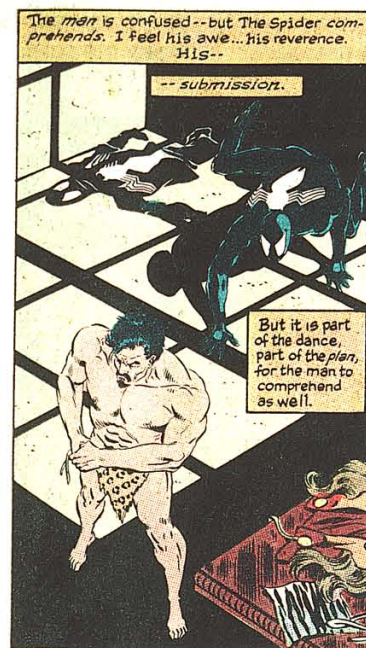
THAT--IN DONNING YOUR COSTUME, IN REPLACING YOU-- I PROVED MYSELF IN ALL WAYS--



SHAKKAKK



--YOUR SUPERIOR.



The man is confused--but The Spider comprehends. I feel his awe...his reverence. His--

-- submission.

But it is part of the dance, part of the plan, for the man to comprehend as well.



So I'll show him the Truth. And, when we finally share it--

-- we'll both be free.

FOLLOW ME, SPIDER-MAN.

YOU EXPECT ME TO JUST--?

YOU HAVE SPECIAL SENSES THAT WARN YOU OF DANGER--SO YOU KNOW THAT THERE'S NO TRAP WAITING BELOW.

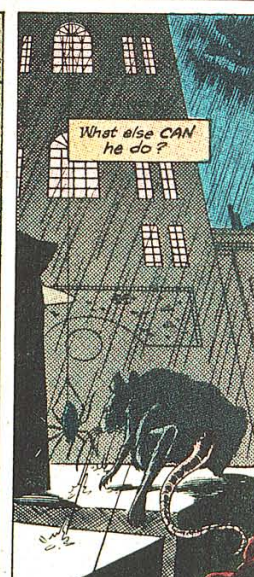
COME WITH ME.



He hesitates.



He comes.



What else CAN he do?

How calm I feel; how peaceful. As if something inside me-- some knot, some tangle of fear and anger and so much more-- has been finally untied.

All these years: fleeing Russia, suffocating in America, finding release... finding honor... in the jungle. All these years-- and I've never known peace or calm or that elusive thing called happiness.

But I feel as if I can know it now. That it's nearby. Just outside, perhaps-- hidden in the patter of the rain, the drum-beat of the thunder.

Peace, calm, happiness.
An ending.

Soon.

VERMIN?!

YES, YOUR OLD FOE, VERMIN.

THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN CALLING HIM "THE CANNIBAL KILLER."

BUT WE KNOW WHAT HE REALLY IS, DON'T WE? THE PERFECT FUSION OF MAN AND ANIMAL. A VILE, TORMENTED, BEAUTIFUL BEAST--



It was in the jungles that I first began to understand the ways of the spirits and demons...of the ravenous Spider.



And tonight I finally see that even the men inhabited the Spider--

-- is ignorant--

KRAVEN!



-- of its devious ways!

I HAVE HAD IT WITH YOU, DO YOU HEAR ME? YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST TURN MY LIFE INSIDE OUT--

-- AND THEN STAND THERE GRINNING LIKE SOME BRAIN-DAMAGED GORILLA? WELL, YOU CAN'T!



Poor man: possessed by the entity responsible for human suffering... world chaos... and he doesn't even know it!



I was as naïve once... before I left this corrupted excuse for civilization behind.

Before I found the honor and dignity I'd lost when my country... my parents... fell to The Spider--

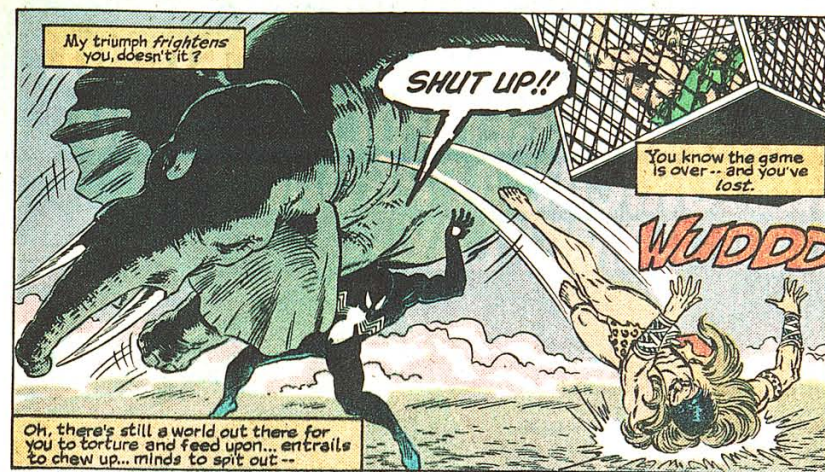
-- in the primitive wilds of Africa.

Hear me, Spider; hear me, man:

Hear the bellow of the elephant; the roar of the lion --



-- the triumph of Kraven.



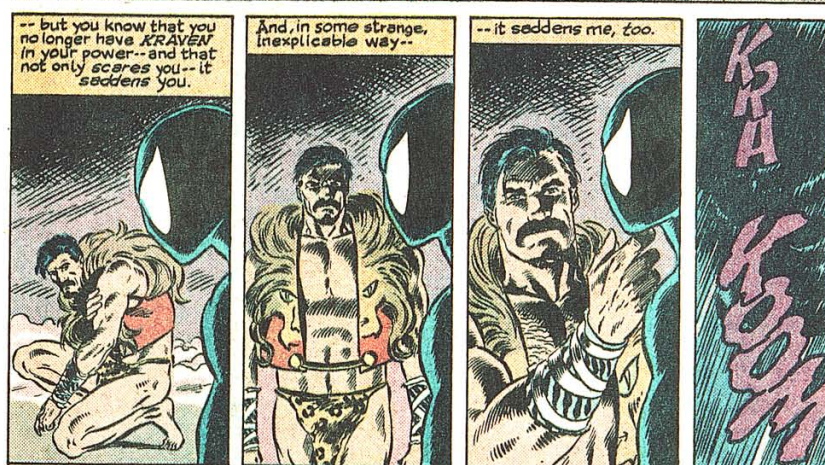
My triumph frightens you, doesn't it?

SHUT UP!!

You know the game is over -- and you've lost.

WUDDDD

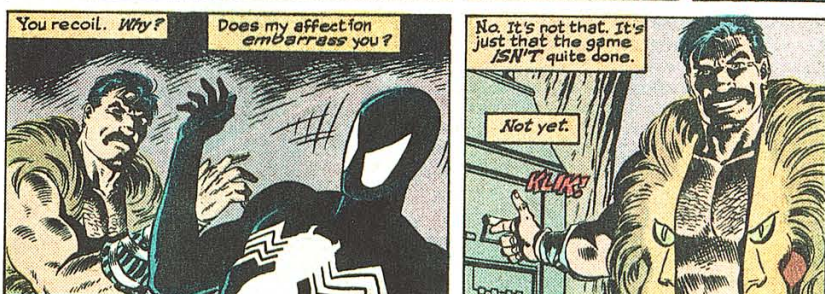
Oh, there's still a world out there for you to torture and feed upon... entrails to chew up... minds to spit out --



-- but you know that you no longer have **KRAVEN** in your power--and that not only scares you--it saddens you.

And, in some strange, inexplicable way--

-- it saddens me, too.



You recoil. Why?

Does my affection embarrass you?

No. It's not that. It's just that the game **ISN'T** quite done.

Not yet.

KLICK



gaz-ə-'ti(ə)r\ n:

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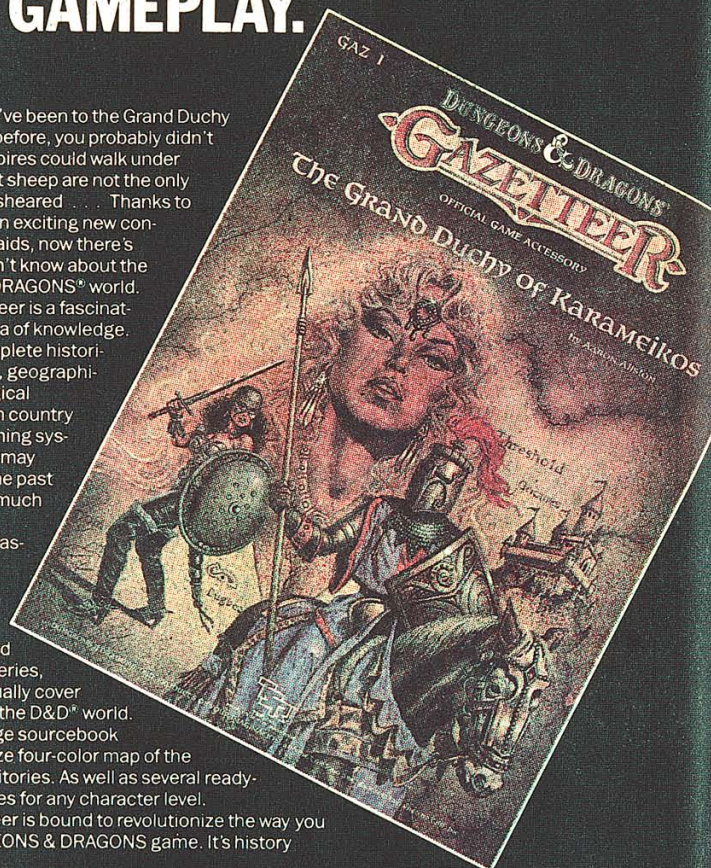
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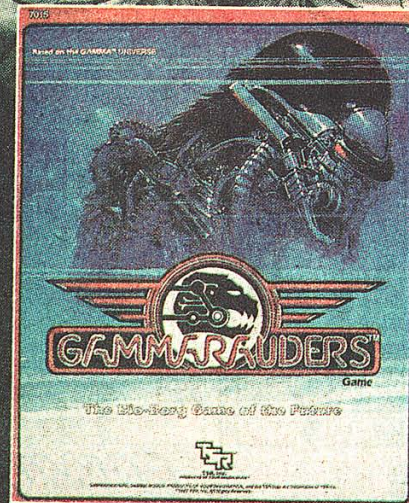
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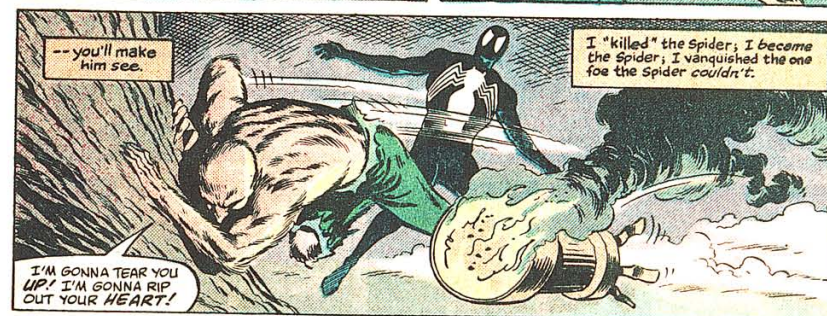
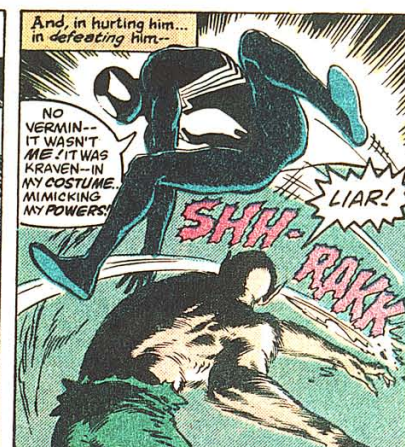
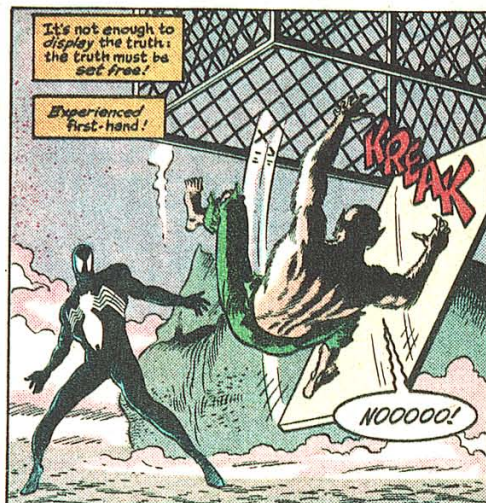
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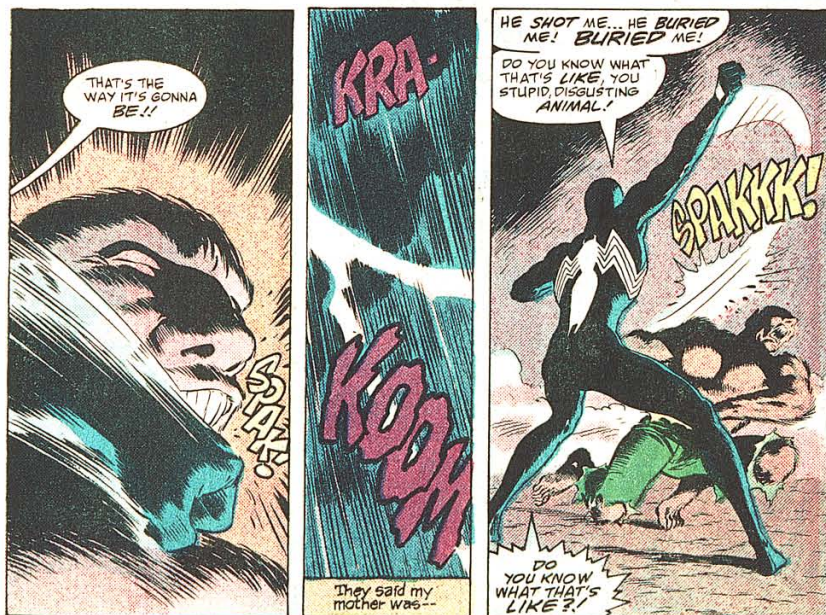
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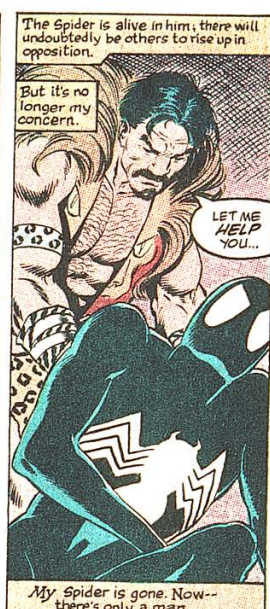
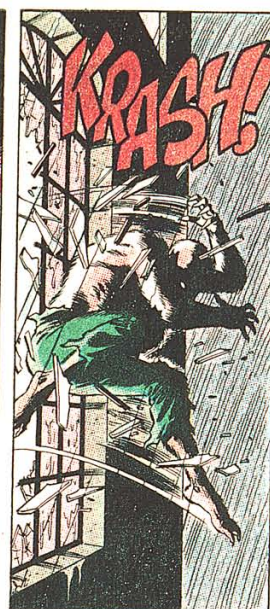
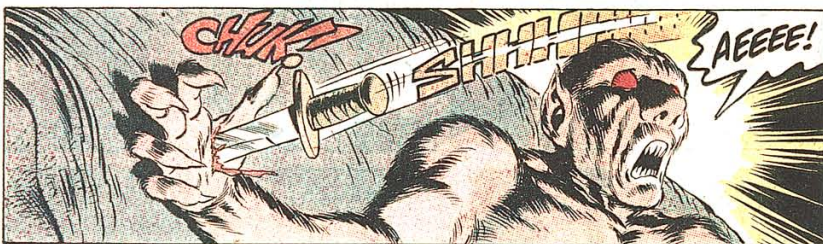
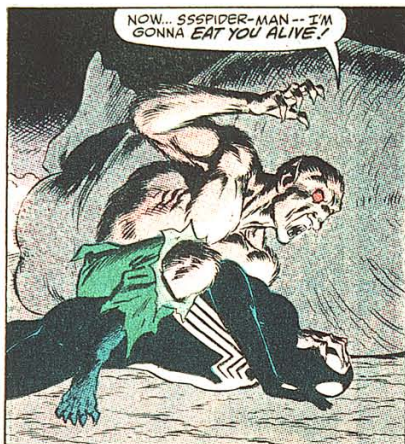
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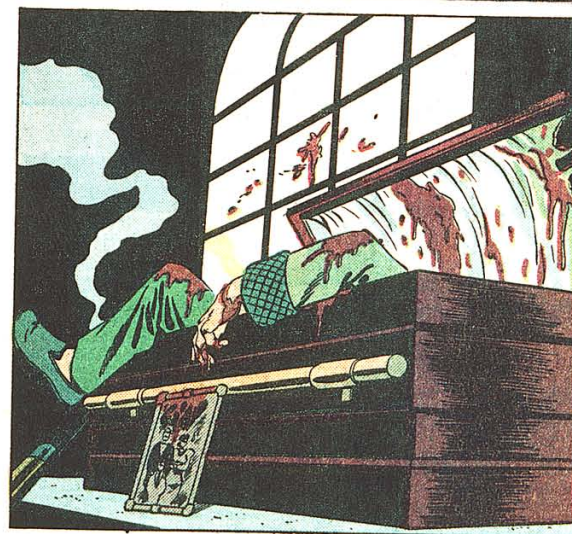
A close-up illustration of a hand holding a handgun. The hand is wearing a green, textured glove. The handgun is a semi-automatic pistol with a wooden grip. A speech bubble with the word "NOW." is positioned near the hand. The background is white with some faint lines suggesting a shirt.

NOW

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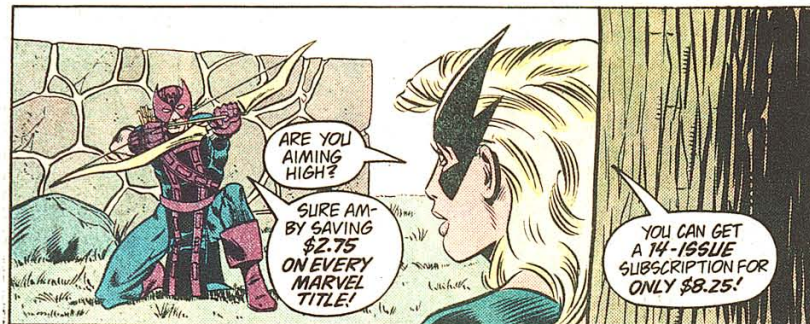


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my mother
was
insane.



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MARVEL TALES #208

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH!

After guiding Marvel Comics to dazzling new creative heights for the past nine and a half years, Jim Shooter has stepped down from his position as the Editor in Chief. Unquestionably one of the most talented creative people in the entire comic book industry, Jim was always spearheading the development of new formats, new concepts and exciting new comic book series (Like The 'Nam! X-Factor! Power Pack! The Punisher! New Mutants! And others!)

Marvel produced its very first Graphic Novels, Limited Series and "Direct-Only" comics under his superb editorial leadership. His accomplishments are too numerous to list here. Suffice it to say that he will be missed.



THE NEW ORDER BEGINS...

Our new Editor in Chief is none other than Two-Fisted Tom DeFalco... A man who needs no introduction to Marveldom Assembled! (But who will be real miffed if he doesn't get one!)

The subject of one of our Bullpen Pro Files a few months back, Tom is a fifteen-year veteran in the comics biz. Since he joined Marvel in 1980, he served as the editor of our Spider-Man line of comics and later as the writer of such popular series as The Amazing Spider-Man, Machine Man and Firestar. As our Executive Editor, he also helped establish Marvel's Star Comics line.

We're sure you join with us in wishing Tom the best of luck in his new job!

Pro File on: MARK GRUENWALD



Editor on: AVENGERS, WEST COAST AVENGERS, SOLO AVENGERS, IRON MAN, OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE Deluxe and Trade Paperback Editions

Marvel freelance credits (past): Scripts: SPIDER-WOMAN, MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, THOR, BIZARRE ADVENTURES, HAWKEYE Limited Series, SQUADRON SUPREME Limited Series

Marvel freelance credits (present): Scripts: CAPTAIN AMERICA, D.P.7

My place of birth is: Oshkosh, Wisconsin

My hobbies are: Playing with my daughter Sara's toys, amassing a videotape library, and doing "butt-dives" into inner tubes at Ralph Macchio's pool

If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: Edward James Olmos

The single work which I am most proud of is: SQUADRON SUPREME #2

My oddest habit is: I'm a neatness freak and I constantly force the people who work with me to clean up their clutter.

The reason I got into comics was: So I could write stories as good as the ones that got me hooked on the medium when I was a kid.

People who knew me in High School thought I was: Going to go far, preferably as far away from them as possible.

My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Winning the Cresskill, New Jersey Butt-Diving Championship for the past two years

My favorite performers are: Talking Heads, The Three Stooges, and Shintaro Katsu

The last good book I read was: THE DISCOVERERS by Daniel J. Boorstin

The last good movie I saw was: RAISING ARIZONA

The biggest influences on my work include: Stan Lee, Gardner Fox, and Philip K. Dick

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: To write CAPTAIN AMERICA forever.

The worst part of my job is: Saying goodbye to my daughter every morning.

When nobody's looking I like to: Rearrange my office.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: I'm the hardest working editor in the business today.

CHECKLIST

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|---|---|--|
| ☐ DAREDEVIL #248 — Turning point! | ☐ SILVER SURFER #5 — Obliteration! | ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #35 — Featuring Part Two of "The Warriors Three" by ALAN ZELLENZ and CHARLES VESS! |
| ☐ NEW MUTANTS #27 | ☐ X-MEN #223 — Featuring the Freedom Force! | ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #141 |
| ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #32 — Continuing the six-part epic that runs through all three Spider-titles! Part Four begins here, courtesy of J.M. DeMATTIS, MIKE ZECK and BOB McLEOD! | ☐ G.I. JOE #65 — The Joes get their own Space Shuttle! | ☐ CONAN SAGA #6 — Reprinting more of those great adventures from the early issues of Conan's comic book! Stories by ROY THOMAS. Art by BARRY WINDSOR SMITH. |
| ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #26 | ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #200 — It's a special double-sized anniversary issue, guest-starring Red Sonja! | ☐ ROBOCOP #1 — He's half-man, half-machine... but he's all cop! Don't miss the official Marvel movie adaptation of this action-packed thriller! |
| ☐ STRIKEFORCE: MORITURI #12 — The citizens of earth believe that the Sentinel has turned traitor! | ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #306 | |
| ☐ CONAN THE KING #43 | ☐ IRON MAN #234 | |
| ☐ X-MEN ANNUAL #11 — Guest-starring Captain Britain, focusing on Wolverine, and featuring the menace of the Horde! Face it, true believers: this one has a lot written by CHRIS CLAREMONT with art by ALAN DAVIS and PAUL NEARY! | ☐ THE X-FACTOR #12 — Marks writes a letter home for his folks. | |
| ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #294 — The penultimate chapter of Spider's battle with Kraven the Hunter! | ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #15 — Reprinting X-Men #108 by CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN BYRNE! Plus, the origin of the Starjammers! | |
| ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #335 — The new Captain America and Buck go on their last mission! | ☐ POWER RANGERS #33 — Featuring a pair of Fallen Angels! | |
| ☐ FALLER ANGELS (Limited Series) #8 | ☐ TRANSFORMERS #34 | |
| ☐ STRANGE TALES #8 — Featuring Cloak & Dagger and the dark side of Dr. Strange! | ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #1 — Peter and Mary Jane are honeymooning in the south of France! Let's give them! | |
| ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #32 — With Wolverine! | ☐ TRANSFORMERS DIGEST #6 — Reprinting issues #11-12 of their comic. | |
| ☐ HEADMASTERS (Limited Series) #3 — The Deceptions themselves become Headmasters! | ☐ X-MEN INDEX #4 — With all the answers to all your questions about issues #67-93, with a couple of surprises! | |
| ☐ SPIDER-MAN DIGEST #6 — Reprinting Amazing Spider-Man #66-70, by STAN LEE and JOHN ROMITA, SR. | ☐ MARVEL MAGAZINES | |
| ☐ AVENGERS #285 | ☐ MARVEL AGE #56 — Special issue about G.I. Joe! Also, more info about everything you see here! | |
| ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #337 — Guest-starring X-Factor! | | |
| ☐ MARVEL TALES #205 — Reprinting Marvel Team-Up #69, by CHRIS CLAREMONT and JOHN BYRNE. | | |
| ☐ PUNISHER #4 — The Punisher gets shot! | | |

MEATLOAF

HUMONGOUS ROCK STAR OF THE UNIVERSE

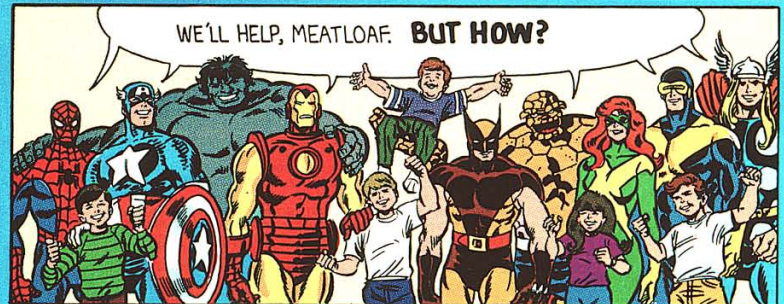
IN "HEROES HELPING HEROES"



SPECIAL OLYMPIANS ARE
THE REAL HEROES.
I'M GONNA GIVE 'EM
EVERYTHING
I'VE GOT.



BUT WHO'S
GONNA
HELP ME?



WE'LL HELP, MEATLOAF. BUT HOW?



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